

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN MATT MCCANN**, on February 5, 2001 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 350 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Matt McCann, Chairman (D)
Sen. Tom A. Beck (R)
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)
Sen. Jon Tester (D)
Rep. Steve Vick (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Bob Keenan, Vice Chairman (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jane Hamman, OBPP
Andrea Hyatt, Committee Secretary
Brian McCullough, Legislative Branch
Christi Tyson, OBPP

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HB 5, 1/31/2001; HB 14,
1/31/2001

Executive Action:

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 5}

CHAIRMAN MCCANN opened the hearing on the Department of Corrections.

Proponents' Testimony:

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 13}

Robert Anderson, Facilities Manager, Department of Corrections, stated they bring two projects before the committee: 1) Montana

State Prison Central Reception Unit in HB 14, page 1, line 29 and page 217 in Volume 2 Governor's Budget FY 2002-2003 and 2) the Treasure State Correctional Treatment Center, Boot Camp, Female Dormitory in HB 5, page 2, line 2 and page 52 in Volume 2 Governor's Budget FY 2002-2003.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 34 - 323}

Mike Mahoney, Warden, Montana State Prison, discussed the history background for the project. He pointed out the importance of having the new reception unit to separate incoming inmates who can be potential predatory personalities or problematic personalities. He described the design for the new reception unit and the benefits for safety for inmates and workers. He provided a copy of his presentation. **EXHIBIT(jlh29a01)** He provided a copy of a letter from **Sheriff Doug Chase and Undersheriff Mike McMeekin, Missoula**, giving testimony in favor of the project. **EXHIBIT(jlh29a02)**

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 325-450}

Steve L'Heureux, architect, L'Heureux, Page, Werner, PC. They have been contracted by Architect & Engineering to provide the design services for this project. He described the process in choosing the location for the new reception unit; the security fencing and the housing unit. The design allows for future expansion to duplicate the cells in the proposed plan; the core is designed to handle the growth.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 451}

Captain Jeff Walters, Facility Administrator, Regional Prison, Glendive, spoke in favor of the project and how having the new reception unit would effect their facility.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0}

CAPTAIN WALTERS CONTINUED HIS TESTIMONY

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 29}

John Wisener, Assistant Warden, Crossroads Correctional Center, Shelby Prison, spoke in favor of the funding for this project. He discussed the importance of the new facility to eliminate the potential liabilities that exist in the current prison.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 75}

REP. ALLEN ROME, HD 56, spoke in favor of funding for this project and the Treasure State Correctional Services.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 90}

Bill Slaughter, new Director of the Department of Corrections, in his former position as Gallatin County Sheriff, he was one of those who threatened to bring prisoners over out of an overcrowded jail and handcuff them to the fence of the reception center. He spoke in favor of the funding.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 116}

SEN. TOM BECK, SD 28, spoke in favor of funding for this project. He requested the committee to set this project at the top of the priority list.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 135-515}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. TESTER questioned the screening process of inmates and if the courts assist the prison in determining the type of personality of an inmate and if they are not, how can the committee help. **REP. KASTEN** questioned the type of control they have in receiving certain inmates on certain days and can you have them wait to deliver those inmates. **REP. VICK** questioned the effect on the staffing level. **SEN. BECK** questioned the Boot Camp effectiveness and the possible use of it for intake. **REP. VICK** questioned remodeling the current reception area and the cost. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned if there were any other intake units in Montana; could Shelby take on the intake unit and move the existing staff there and funding sources. **Mike Mahoney** responded. **SEN. TESTER** questioned how the federal funds was made available. **Joe Williams, Fiscal, Dept. of Corrections**, provided the details on the federal funding requirements.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0}

JOE WILLIAMS CONTINUED HIS RESPONSE.

He stated that they had to mitigate with the federal government on receiving funds; they won and will receive almost \$1 million. They just learned that the federal government is considering extending the program and there is a potential that they could receive another \$1 million. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned if

someone would testify to the fact that if they did in fact receive those federal dollars and if the committee or legislature approves this facility, that they would use those dollars to offset the general obligation bonds. **Joe Williams** stated: certainly, should that money become available, we would be more than happy to do that. **REP. VICK** questioned how they used the previous federal grants. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned what other projects are out there to be improved in the future; any liabilities pending; and plans for the reception unit if replaced. **Mike Mahoney** reviewed various updates on planned projects; discussed potential liabilities and had **Steve Larue** respond to the reception unit and other questions the committee had regarding the choices of use for that area. Discussion followed; further questions were answered regarding costs of alternative plans for the reception unit and other sources of funding. **Jane Hamman** questioned if someone would work with the fiscal division and budget office on some language regarding the potential for federal funding offsets. **Mike Mahoney** agreed.

CHAIRMAN MCCANN opened the hearing on the Department of Corrections Boot Camp, Female Dormitory.

Proponents' Testimony:

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 427-518}

Robert Anderson, Facilities Manager, Department of Corrections, discussed their second project, the Boot Camp, Female Dormitory page 52 in Volume 2.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. TESTER questioned the location. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned when it was built. **REP. VICK** questioned if there was an obligation to have female prisoners in this location. **Bob Anderson and Joe Williams** responded.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0}

REP. VICK questioned alternatives. **Bill Slaughter** responded. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned the number of women in the camp now. **Bill Slaughter** responded five and want to expand to twelve. **SEN. TESTER** questioned the boot camp history. **Bill Slaughter** responded. **CHAIRMAN MCCANN** questioned what this funding would be used for. **Jim Whaley, A&E,** responded. **Jane Hamman** questioned if the workforce would be prison inmates. **Jim Whaley** responded yes.

CHAIRMAN MCCANN closed the hearing on the Department of Corrections Boot Camp, Female Dormitory.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PAST PROJECTS

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 69-517}

Bob Anderson, reviewed the past projects and authorities for the Department of Corrections. He referred to the binder entitled "Project Status Report Long Range Building Program As of FYE 00". (Note: this binder was part of the minutes for February 2, 2001.) Discussion followed. **Tom O'Connell, Jim Whaley, Kathy Willis** responded to questions from the committee.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0-150}

Bob Anderson continued his review.

CHAIRMAN MCCANN closed the hearing on the Department of Corrections.

CHAIRMAN MCCANN opened the hearing on the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.

Proponents' Testimony:

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 165-488}

Bill Sykes, Business Manager, Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, discussed the three projects starting on page 35: fire sprinkler, roof and carpeting.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

The committee asked questions that were answered by **Mr. Sykes, Tom O'Connell and Jim Whaley**.

CHAIRMAN MCCANN closed the hearing on the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 490-519}

Brian McCullough provided a handout entitled "Authority Identified For Possible Reversion-Bonded and Cash Projects".

EXHIBIT (j1h29a03)

Kathy Willis, A&E, reviewed the handout.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0}

Kathy Willis continued her review.

Discussion followed and **Ms. Willis responded** to committee questions.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 94}

Brian McCullough provided a handout entitled "State of Montana- Ratio of Direct State Debt to Assessed Value and Direct State Debt Per Capita-Last Twenty Fiscal Years". **EXHIBIT(jlh29a04)**

D. J. Whitaker, Department of Administration, reviewed the handout and answered questions from the committee.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 140}

Jane Hamman provided a handout entitled "Legislative Intent Regarding Funding of O & M Costs for Various MUS Buildings - As Adopted by the Joint Appropriations Long-Range Planning Subcommittee on February 10, 1999". **EXHIBIT(jlh29a05)** She discussed the history of the committee and the O & M budget within the university system.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 201-225}

Chuck Swysgood, Director, OBPP, also provided background information and history on the O & M budget for the university system.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 241; Comments : END OF TAPE}

The meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:20 A.M.

REP. MATT MCCANN, Chairman

ANDREA HYATT, Secretary

MM/AH

EXHIBIT (j1h29aad)